

Sheet 1 of 1

|  |  |   |                               |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------|
| FORM PTO-1449<br>(REV.7-80)  | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE | ATTY. DOCKET NO.<br>851663.424USPC            | APPLICATION NO.<br>09/830,441 |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b><br>(Use several sheets if necessary) |  | APPLICANTS<br>Mohammed Absar et al.           |                               |
|  |  | INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE<br>October 26, 2001 | GROUP ART UNIT                |

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

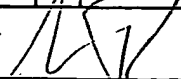
| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE     | NAME          | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|----|-----------------|----------|---------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| ACE                  | AA | 5,787,025       | 07/28/98 | Muwafi et al. | 364   | 736.01   |                               |
|                      | AB |                 |          |               |       |          |                               |
|                      | AC |                 |          |               |       |          |                               |
|                      | AD |                 |          |               |       |          |                               |
|                      | AE |                 |          |               |       |          |                               |
|                      | AF |                 |          |               |       |          |                               |
|                      | AG |                 |          |               |       |          |                               |
|                      | AH |                 |          |               |       |          |                               |
|                      | AI |                 |          |               |       |          |                               |
|                      | AJ |                 |          |               |       |          |                               |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

|     |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE     | COUNTRY | TRANSLATION |    |
|-----|----|-----------------|----------|---------|-------------|----|
|     |    |                 |          |         | YES         | NO |
| ALF | AK | WO 98/28695     | 07/02/98 | WIPO    |             |    |
| ↓   | AL | EP 0778536 A2   | 06/11/97 | EP      |             |    |
|     | AM |                 |          |         |             |    |
|     | AN |                 |          |         |             |    |
|     | AO |                 |          |         |             |    |

**OTHER PRIOR ART** (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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|--|----|--|
|  | AP |  |
|  | AQ |  |
|  | AR |  |

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| EXAMINER<br> | DATE CONSIDERED<br>2/17/04 |
|---|----------------------------|

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).